Appln. No. To Be Assigned PreAmendment Dated:

## In the Specification

Please amend page 1, line 2, by inserting the following sentence and heading:

-- This application is a continuation of international application number PCT/NO02/00321 filed September 12, 2002 which claims priority to Great Britain Application 0122049.0 filed September 12, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

## Field of Invention--

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8:

## -- Background of the Invention --

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18:

## --Summary of the Invention--

Please insert the following paragraphs and headings before the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 23:

- -- The present invention further provides a method of magnetic resonance imaging of a sample. The method includes the steps of:
- i) administering a hyperpolarised MR imaging agent comprising non-zero nuclear spin nuclei into the sample;
- ii) exposing the sample to a radiation at a frequency selected to excite nuclear spin transitions in the non-zero nuclear spin nuclei;